[English]

Revenue Collections

4874. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue collected by the South Eastern Railway from the passengers and goods Traffic during each of the last two years;

(b) the total liability of the Railways in the South Eastern Railway during the said period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to collect more revenue from the South Eastern Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The Revenue collected by South Eastern Railway from Passenger and Goods during last two years are as under:—

(Figures in lakhs of Rs.)

	1994-95	1995-96
Passenger	36545	40300
Goods	340740	379213

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to collect more revenue from the South Eastern Railway are as under:

Passenger Services

1. Intensive ticket checking to reduce ticketless travel.
2. Issue of tickets through micro processor based Self Printing Ticket Machines.
3. Introduction of Coupon Validating Machine.
4. Running of fully unreserved trains on selected routes.
5. Better manpower management.
6. Energy conservation.
7. Cost control, cost reduction and cost effectiveness in all on-line as well as off-line activities.
8. Lowering of spending limits of the Railways.
9. Introduction of new trains.
10. Zero base review of activities.

Freight Services

1. Own Your Wagon Scheme introduced to encourage private participation in ownership of wagons.
2. Quotation of Station to station rates for certain streams of traffic.
3. Zonal Railways have been empowered to quote reduced rates for traffic offered in empty flow direction.
4. Increasing the minimum distance for charge to 100 Kms to earn additional revenue.
5. Agglomeration of piece meal traffic through freight forwarders.
6. Multimodal transport of goods through door to door container services.
7. Scheme for leasing of SLR/Break Van space in passenger trains for committed parcel movement.
8. Constant monitoring is being done on the loading of high profit yielding commodities.

Gour Express

4875. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gour Express under Eastern Railway is the only fast link train between Malda and Sealdah Division;

(b) whether there are several complaints about the old and outdated compartments being used in this prestigious train; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to replace the old compartments in this train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) 3153/3154 Gour Express provides direct service between Sealdah and Malda. In addition 7 pairs of Mail/Express trains besides a Fast passenger connects Malda with Calcutta (Sealdah/Howrah).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Steam Locomotive Engines

4876. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM': Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steam locomotive engines are still produced by the Railways;

(b) the number of steam engines still used by the Railways;

(c) whether the Government propose to withdraw these engines from the service completely; and

(d) if so, the details of the plan in this regard?